

Community

Club Reports

Hemlock Stone Probus Club

THE Hemlock Stone Probus Club held their AGM in April 2010 where the following officers were elected:

President Peter Frost, Vice President Keith Earnshaw, Past President John Worsley, Secretary Alan Patchitt, Treasurer Brian Pilgrim, Social Secretary Robin Gent, Speaker Finder Peter Tyler, Almoner Peter Wilkes, Press Officer Michael Litchfield and Auditor Godfrey Orchard. The outgoing President said: "We have had a very successful year and, although we are not a charity, we have sent donations to Cancer Research, Treetops Hospice and the Children's Brain Tumour Charity."

The Club and their Ladies held the Annual Skittles Evening in May at the Embankment Club, Trent Bridge. Four teams of seven battled it out over two rounds, Ken Macdonald leading his team to victory. Chris Brown earned the 'award' for the Gentleman with the Greatest Potential for Improvement (Booby Prize) and Joan Henshaw

took the equivalent ladies' award. The meeting finished with supper in the conservatory.

Later in May, a Long Walk, led by Robin Gent, stated at the Coach and Horse in Horsley, Derbyshire. This set off past the village green with its huge conker tree and out to the village of Coxbench, where the walkers crossed the disused railway line and followed the road to Little Eaton. They passed the scout camp at Drumhill and reached the little-known Horsley Castle, where Robin Gent gave a potted history of the castle. The morning finished with lunch at the Coach and Horses.

Also in May, a monthly Heritage Walk was held in Long Eaton. This started at Mayfield House and past The Green, which used to have the public toilets on the island, before continuing to the Market Place and along Tamworth Road, then through Long Eaton's back streets to Station Road and returning to the Market Place

and The Green.

The group heard about a Mr Clay, a railway wagon manufacturer in Long Eaton of many years ago. When Mr Clay couldn't find suitable labour, the surrounding area being all agriculture, he recruited from the north. When his recruits found they were being charged more for their food than the locals, Mr Clay helped them to form a cooperative, this later becoming the Long Eaton Cooperative Society.

The walk finished with lunch at Mayfield House.

Members at the May meeting were entertained by Mr T Vennett-Smith speaking about his life as an auctioneer and valuer, and how he had started his professional life as an apprentice auctioneer at Melton Mowbray Market before working for the City Council, and then joined Neal's on Mansfield Road.

He eventually came to set his own business up in Gotham, valuing and selling cigarette cards, post cards etc.

The Long Eaton Probus Club

DURING the last few weeks, members of the Long Eaton Probus Club have enjoyed speaker meetings including local accounts covering the history of our language, sayings and slang.

The highlight of May was the Club's 37th annual luncheon, held at Erewash Valley Golf Club. President George Fearn and Margaret welcomed more than 70 guests, members, wives

and partners to an excellent meal, and speeches were brief before member David Howley wrapped up the proceedings with his unique raffle.

Later in May, a bowls afternoon was organised by Malcolm Hutchins and, after some keen competition, the teams planned to play again in the near future.

Lathkill Dale in Derbyshire was the next

event, with Brian Flint organising a lovely walk for members and wives as well as an opportunity to learn about some of the local history of the area, particularly the background to lead mining.

Plans for June included a group from the club visiting Woodhall Spa for a day, and a speaker from the RNLI scheduled to address the June club meeting.

Rotary Club of Beeston

ON Monday, June 7, 36 Rotarian and their partners moved from their usual venue to venture out to The Rose & Crown at Cotgrave. This turned out to be an enjoyable evening

capped off with a rendition of 'Waltzing Matilda' in honour of Barry Matthews, our Antipodean friend – returning to Australia after a five year stint with the Beeston club.

The following week saw club members taking part in a friendly bowls evening played at Highfields, this followed by a barbecue at Beeston Fields Golf Club.

Two O'clock Club

AT the June meeting, club members listened as Alan Clark of Arnold Hearing Care spoke of the various medical problems that affect the hearing, and the aids available for solving or relieving hearing problems.

He began by giving a brief history of the company set up by Gordon Arnold in 1936 as a private hearing aid dispenser, and went on to explain how incoming sounds were transmitted to the brain. He then described the types of aids and treatment available from the NHS: behind-the-ear hearing aids, bone anchored aids for those unable to use conventional aids and cochlear implants.

Arnold Hearing Care supplies low visibility digital hearing aids, which fit inside the ear. The care

offered by the company includes assessments to check the health of the outer ear and the tympanic membrane as well as otoscopies and audiometer tests using headphones. Problems detected include sensory neural loss and conductive loss, which may have a medical remedy or require a hearing aid system. He then explained the process for the selection, design and fitting of the various types of hearing aids, pointing out that the cost for one of the digital hearing aids could be between £500 and £2000, depending upon the facilities incorporated into the aid, such as links to TV, Bluetooth etc.

Following the talk he answered members' questions and, using an

electronic probe called a pistol connected to a laptop computer, gave several members an otoscopy, enabling them to see inside their own ears. Mr Clark's talk was informative and appreciated by his audience, a number of them already hearing aid users.

The following week, the Take Your Partners and Dance, led by Doug and Shirley Hardy, attracted several non-members. The possibility of improving the content of future sessions was being considered.

Owing to a speaker being unable to give his talk, changes have had to be made to the programme. The talk entitled 'Nosey Parker Surveyor' by Gordon Asher has been rescheduled for June 24.

Toton Methodist Church Women's Meeting

MR Leslie Barnard, the speaker at the June 8 meeting, told of how he was chosen to join a mission to Czechoslovakia early in 1990, soon after the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989.

He spoke of his experiences – some quite grim – as he travelled

around the country. He also had with him some recordings of people singing for joy as they were released from Communism.

The Toton Methodist Church Women's Meeting is for all ladies and is held on alternate Tuesdays at 2.15pm.

Dates and information can be obtained from Eileen Hall on (0115) 973 2861. The next meeting will be on June 22, when the talk will be about Mission Aviation Fellowship and the work of flying doctors and medical supplies to out-of-the-way places.